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Larry Clausen, Executive Director

State Council Promotes Coordinated Effort for Persons with Developmental Disabilities & Their Families

The Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC) is expanding efforts to mobilize resources for people with developmental disabilities and their families. The ADDPC advocates for its consumers of all ages to achieve the highest possible level of independence while being included in the life of the surrounding community.

"It is stimulating to work with passionate people who understand the needs in our community," said Larry Clausen, ADDPC Executive Director. "Perhaps more important is the ADDPC's motivation to make a difference. This is just the beginning of a very exciting future."

In its new [2012-16 Five Year State Plan](#), the ADDPC has established three goals:

- **Employment:** The ADDPC seeks to ensure persons with developmental disabilities have access to employment opportunities that provide them with the type of jobs that match their capabilities and interests, and provides them with wages and benefits that are appropriate to the duties they perform.
- **Self-Advocacy:** The ADDPC seeks to work collaboratively with persons with developmental disabilities to provide opportunities in developing and expanding skills in self-advocacy to increase capacity and to live with dignity, independence, choice, and full inclusion in the community.
- **Functioning As A Reliable Source of Information:** The ADDPC is working to become an authoritative information source for consumers by utilizing personal staff contact and electronic and printed media to obtain accurate answers to questions key to their needs.

In addition the council's website (www.azgovernor.gov/DDPC) provides the community with information on state, federal and private sector programs, a quarterly newsletter that highlights programs and people from around Arizona who are achieving success, and offers a listing of comprehensive resources available to consumers.

The ADDPC has also developed a [Legal Options Manual](#) in conjunction with the Arizona Center for Disability Law and the Native American Disability Law Center. The manual is available at no cost in both English and Spanish.

Additional information can be obtained by visiting the [ADDPC website](#) or by calling 602-542-8970 within the Phoenix Metropolitan Area, or 1-877-665-3176, a toll-free number serving consumers outside of the Phoenix Metropolitan area.

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